

Diversity and Equality Steering Group

Minute of Meeting
held at Western Isles Hospital on 19th August 2009 at 14.00pm.

Present

Calum Russell	NHS Western Isles
TK Shadakshari	NHS Western Isles
Donnie White	Lewis Access Panel
Gordon Thomas	Lewis Access Panel
Ludmila Macleod	Migrant Worker Project
Karen France	NHS Western Isles
Lisa Buchanan	Northern Constabulary
Roddy MacKay	Northern Constabulary
Darren Hudson	Comhairle nan Eilean Siar

Apologies

Norma Morrison	Comhairle nan Eilean Siar
Iain MacKenzie	Voluntary Action Lewis
Helen Froud	Improvement Forum
Isobel MacKenzie	Comhairle nan Eilean Siar
Lucy Macdonald	Harris Access Panel
Mandy Macleod	Crossreach
Martin Malcolm	NHS Western Isles
Alan Ross	Harris Access Panel

Minutes

The Minutes of Meeting of 24th June 2009 were approved.

Update from the Race Equality Working Group

The group was informed of the last meeting of the Race Equality Working Group that took place on 11th October 2009. The group discussed the issues that arose regarding translation services.

Update from the Disability Equality Working Group

The group was informed that members of the local access panels have been involved in the NHS property strategy and their role in that group.

Draft Action Plan

The group discussed ways to engage and involve the other equality strands, suggestions included creating other Working Groups and to hold an event to involve those from the other strands. It was raised that if the Community Planning Partners create a Hate Free Hebrides site, the publicity around the launch could be used to involve and engage with other groups.

Socio-economic Duty Consultation

The group discussed the recent decision by the Scottish Government to open consultation on the proposal to adopt a socio-economic duty similar to that in the Equality Bill for England and Wales. The group agreed to examine the implications of the proposal and feedback as appropriate.

Hate Free Highland Presentation

Lisa Buchanan gave a presentation on the Hate Free Highland reporting website, which allows those who have been a victim of a hate incident or hate crime a chance to report the incident online. The group felt that there would be value in having a similar website for the Outer Hebrides, and the matter will be taken forward.

Date of Next Meeting

NHS Western Isles Hospital (Practical Room)

28th October 2009

14.00pm.